



OFFICE OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

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(406) 444-3095
(888) 231-9393
(406) 444-0169 (TTY)

Linda McCulloch
Superintendent

TO: MBI School Teams

FROM: Susan Bailey-Anderson Mary Ellen Earnhardt
MBI Coordinator Learn and Serve Coordinator

RE: MBI, Character Education and Learn and Serve Youth Day(s)

DATE: September 2008

**"The most satisfying thing in life is to have been able
to give a large part of one's self to others."**

Pierre Teilhard de Chardin



Greetings! Effective school change requires wide stakeholder participation. Engaging the student voice in designing and implementing school change can be very powerful. We can make a difference – one student and one school at a time.

An invitation is extended to you and your middle school and high school students to participate with the MBI, Character Education and Service-Learning Youth Day(s) for 2008-2009. On Sunday, we will begin at 2:00 p.m. and conclude by 8:00 p.m. On Monday, we will begin at 7:45 a.m. and conclude by 2:00 p.m. A meal will be served on Sunday evening and a morning snack and lunch on Monday. A preliminary agenda is attached. Your school will be reimbursed for travel, lodging (if you should need it) and per diem at the current state rates. Following are the dates and locations:

November 2 & 3 – Kalispell
November 9 & 10 – Missoula
November 16 & 17 – Great Falls

November 23 & 24 - Billings
December 7 & 8 – Miles City

Miss Montana, Jennifer Hepner, is coming to your area for Youth Days! In January, Jennifer will compete for the title of Miss America and present her unique talent, Raqs Sharqi dance.

Jennifer's journey toward becoming Miss Montana demonstrates the power of goal setting, hard work and determination. Jennifer's story will inspire youth to make positive decisions "Beyond the Bell" as they work toward fulfilling their individual dreams!

"It is the mission of the Office of Public Instruction to improve teaching and learning through communication, collaboration, advocacy, and accountability to those we serve."

Mac Bledsoe, teacher, coach, husband, parent/grandfather/educator, and Yes, father of Drew Bledsoe, the NFL Quarterback, is also coming to your area for Youth Days! Mac will help our youth realize citizenship and decision-making goals.

Additionally, Randy Chase, MBI Consultant and teacher at Castle Rock Middle School, Billings, will be facilitating the entire event. Activities are planned so that students will have the opportunity to work with students from other schools, as well as with their own teams. With this year's event, we will once again be providing information regarding service learning. Teams will conduct service-learning projects in each of the locations on Monday of the event.

The experience from past Youth Days was enthusiastic, motivating, and all who attended had a great time. The event will be structured so that teams of students and school staff will create action plans for their school site regarding the implementation of the MBI process and service-learning, as well as addressing leadership skills, asset building, and bully prevention at their school. Sessions and activities will be mostly student directed with school staff participation.

This event includes opportunities for fun, networking, and developing future and current leaders. We are considering making arrangements to have this Youth Day videotaped as well. If your school has not received permission to videotape your students, please utilize the attached permission form and return it to this office. You will need to make additional copies for your students.

Poster Session

Please plan to set up a poster session to introduce your school and service-learning projects conducted in the past year. Tables will be available for each school site. Poster display boards work really well as may other types of media display. Tell something about your school, your team, service, learning, etc. Please indicate on the Registration/RSVP form if you will need a table for the poster session.

Door Prizes

We are asking each school to bring two or more items from their school and community that can be shared with other participants as door prizes. These door prizes have been a hit at past Youth Days! Thank you so much for the help with this as it really adds to the experience at the Youth Day.

Registration

Please plan to attend this event and bring 10-12 participants. This includes both students and staff. In selecting students, please include a broad spectrum of your student population, including student leaders and future student leaders. A cross section of your student population would be ideal in promoting diverse ideas and thoughts. Please complete the attached Registration/RSVP form indicating the number and names of both students and staff who will be attending. This is important to adequately plan for meals and/or other activities.

Please return these forms to Susan Bailey-Anderson, PO Box 202501, Helena, MT 59620-2501; Fax - 406-444-3924

- ♦ **RSVP/Registration**
- ♦ **Permission Form**

When the RSVP/Registration Form is received at the OPI, you will receive a confirmation letter with detailed information regarding sites and lodging.

For questions, please call me at (406)444-2046 or e-mail sbanderson@mt.gov

Attachments

c: Consultants
Randy Chase
Jennifer Hepner
Mac Bledsoe
Drew Uecker
Mary Ellen Earnhardt



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**Linda McCulloch
Superintendent**

I give permission for the Office of Public Instruction, Helena, Montana, to publish my child's appearance in a training video for the Montana Behavioral Initiative and Service-Learning Youth Day(s) 2008 for distribution to schools involved with the MBI and Service-Learning processes to increase awareness of emerging best practices in Montana schools.

Date of Permission: _____

Student's Name (please print): _____

Student's Signature: _____

Parent/Guardian (please print): _____

Parent / Guardian signature: _____

MONTANA BEHAVIORAL INITIATIVE (MBI) SERVICE-LEARNING AND CHARACTER EDUCATION



YOUTH DAY(S)

**Miss Montana 2008
Jennifer Hepner**



Miss Montana 2008, JENNIFER HEPNER, is coming to your area for Youth Days! In January, Jennifer will compete for the title of Miss America and present her unique talent, Raqs Sharqi dance. Jennifer's journey toward becoming Miss Montana demonstrates the power of goal setting, hard work and determination. Jennifer's story will inspire youth to make positive decisions "Beyond the Bell" as they work toward fulfilling their individual dreams!

Mac Bledsoe

Teacher/Coach/Husband/Parent/Grandfather/Educator and YES, father of Drew Bledsoe, the NFL quarterback. Mac will discuss with the attendees the impact of decisions and goal setting in realizing dreams. As Mac says, "The ideas in your head will rule your world."

5 Locations for 2008!

November 2 & 3 - Kalispell
November 9 & 10 - Missoula
November 16 & 17 - Great Falls
November 23 & 24- Billings
December 7 & 8 - Miles City

Building Community....Promoting Positive School Climate, Service Learning,
Citizenship, Sportsmanship, Diversity

**You are invited to bring up to 12 team members
(students and adults) to participate at one of the sites.**

Sunday, 2:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Monday, 8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

For registration information, please visit www.opi.mt.gov/MBI
Click on Training/Events-Youth Days



**MBI, CHARACTER EDUCATION
AND
SERVICE-LEARNING YOUTH DAY(S)**

Registration
and

R.S.V.P.

Office of Public Instruction
PO Box 202501
Helena, MT 59620-2501

FAX: (406) 444-3924 – Deliver to Susan Bailey-Anderson

- ☐ KALISPELL – NOVEMBER 2-3, 2008 – Fax or mail back by October 24, 2008
- ☐ MISSOULA – NOVEMBER 9-10, 2008 – Fax or mail back by October 31, 2008
- ☐ GREAT FALLS – NOVEMBER 16-17, 2008 – Fax or mail back by November 6, 2008
- ☐ BILLINGS – NOVEMBER 23-24, 2008 – Fax or mail back by November 14, 2008
- ☐ MILES CITY- DECEMBER 7-8, 2008 - Fax or mail back by November 25, 2008

School _____ Contact Name _____ Phone _____

E-mail address _____ ☐ Reserve table for poster session

Student Name

Student Name

Staff /Chaperone Name
